

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The claims have been amended as set forth above to further clarify features associated with the claims. As indicated above, claims 32-37 are new. Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

### **I. Examiner Interview Dated October 15, 2008**

An interview was held on October 15, 2008. An agreement as to allowability was not reached. The claim changes were discussed in light of the cited references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

### **II. Claim Objections**

Claims 21 and 25 are objected to because of two informalities. The informalities have been remedied as set forth above. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

### **III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 3, 4, 18-21, 25 and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,493,871 issued to McGuire et al. (hereinafter "McGuire"). As indicated in the Office Action, McGuire includes a common assignee with the instant application. The claims have been amended as set forth above. Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections in the Office Action. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the manifest file mandates that each of the plurality of resources of the resource group complete a transmission between the first member and the second member and exist on the second member before granting access to any of the plurality of resources of the resource group. Independent claim 1 includes beginning a replication operation. The replication operation includes a transfer duration during which each of the plurality of resources of the resource group are being transmitted between the first member and the second member. Independent claim 1 further recites that during the transfer duration: identifying whether each resource identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and exists at the second member by comparing each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file to a database that identifies

resources of the second member. When each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has not completed transmission and does not exist on the second member, access to all of the resources of the resource group is prevented as identified in the manifest file regardless of whether any resources of the group have completed transmission and exist on the second member. Only when each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and does exist at the second member, the system registry is updated to include all the resources of the resource group.

With regard to independent claim 18, independent claim 18 recites that the manifest file mandates that each of the plurality of resources of the resource group complete a transmission between the first member and a second member and exist on the second member before granting access to any of the plurality of resources of the resource group. Independent claim 18 recites beginning a replication operation. The replication operation includes a transfer duration during which each of the plurality of resources of the resource group are being transmitted between the first member and the second member. During the transfer duration identification is made as to whether each resource identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and exists at the second member by comparing each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file to a database that identifies resources of the second member. When each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has not completed transmission and does not exist at the second member, access to all resources of the group identified in the manifest file is prevented regardless of whether any resources of the group have completed transmission and exist on the second member. When each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and does exist at the second member, access is provided to all the resources of the resource group.

With regard to independent claim 25, independent claim 25 recites that the manifest file mandates that each of the plurality of resources of the resource group complete a transmission between the first member and a second member and exist on the second member before granting access to any of the plurality of resources of the resource group. Independent claim 18 recites beginning a replication operation. The replication operation includes a transfer duration during which each of the plurality of resources of the resource group are being transmitted between the

first member and the second member. During the transfer duration identification is made as to whether each resource identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and exists at the second member by comparing each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file to a database that identifies resources of the second member. When each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has not completed transmission and does not exist at the second member, access to all resources of the group identified in the manifest file is prevented regardless of whether any resources of the group have completed transmission and exist on the second member. When each resource of the resource group identified in the manifest file has completed transmission and does exist at the second member, access is provided to all the resources of the resource group.

Applicants can find no teaching or suggestion within the cited reference of the above combination of features of the independent claims. Accordingly, applicants assert that the independent claims are allowable over the cited reference.

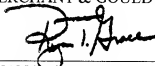
With regard to the dependent claims, the dependent claims include features that are not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited reference. Furthermore, those claims ultimately depend from the independent claims set forth above. As such, they should be allowable for at least those same reasons.

#### **IV. Request for Reconsideration**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



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RYAN T. GRACE

Registration No. 52,956

Direct Dial: 402.344.3000

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P. O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

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